

**SONG-BROWN FAMILY PHYSICIAN TRAINING PROGRAM
SITE VISIT EVALUATION REVIEW**

REGISTERED NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM: Mendocino Community College-ADN Program

Date of Site Visit: May 29, 2008

Site Review Staff: Terrie Smith, Program Analyst and Melissa Omand, Program Analyst

Names and Titles of Persons Interviewed: Barbara French, Program Director and Melissa Hladek, Faculty Member

Site visit questions relate to the Song-Brown Family Physician Training Act Standards for Registered Nursing Education Programs, established by the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission, pursuant to Health and Safety Code 128200, et seq. Each training program standard is presented in italics:

Section I. *Each Registered Nursing Education Program approved for funding under the Song-Brown Family Physician Training Act (hereinafter "the Act") shall be operated by an accredited California School of Nursing or shall be approved by the Regents of the University of California or by the Trustees of the California State University and Colleges, or shall be approved by the Board of Registered Nursing pursuant to Section 2834-2837, Article 8, Chapter 6, Div. 2, of the Business and Professions Code, or the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, and that is approved by the Board of Registered Nursing.*

The following questions relate to Section I of the Training Program Standards:

1. Is the education program operated by one of the following entities?

An accredited California School of Nursing? Yes ☒ No ☐

2. Has the program been approved by one of the following entities?

The Board of Registered Nursing?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Board of Governors of the CA Community Colleges?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Trustees of the California State University?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The Regents of the University of California?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

3. What is the NCLEX pass rate? 88%

4. How many students do you train each year? The target is 24 students a year. For this academic year 24 students were admitted and 22 graduated, Dr. French states the 2 losses were LVN to RN students and due to academics, she further states the program has an average attrition rate of 10%.

Comments: An optional three (3) DAY NCLEX Review Course, designed by the faculty is scheduled for two weeks after graduation. Students who do not take the course tend to have a lower NCLEX pass rate. Mendocino Community College (MCC) is looking for incentives for students so they will take advantage of this training.

Section II. *Each Registered Nursing Education Program approved for funding under the Act shall include a component of education in medically underserved multi-cultural communities, lower socioeconomic neighborhoods, or rural communities, and shall be organized to prepare registered nursing services in such neighborhoods and communities.*

The following questions relate to Section II of the Education Program Standards:

1. Does the education program include a component of training in medically underserved multi-cultural communities, lower socioeconomic areas, or rural communities (hereinafter “component of training”) that is organized to prepare registered nurses for services in such neighborhoods and communities?

Yes ☒ No ☐ If no, provide comments: _____

2. Describe the location of the education program’s “component of training”?

Check which category(ies) apply:

- ☐ Medically underserved multicultural community
☒ Lower socioeconomic area
☒ Rural area
☐ None of the above

Comments: Both Mendocino and Lake counties are rural in nature and serve a lower socioeconomic population. Frank R. Howard Hospital in Willits is designated by Medicare as a “Critical Access” facility as is Sutter Lakeside Hospital in Lakeport.

3. Street address and zip code of “component of training”: Frank r. Howard Memorial Hospital, 1 Madrone Street, Willits, CA 95490; Sutter Lakeside Hospital, 5176 Hill Road, Lakeport, CA 95453.

For OSHPD staff use – geographic location of “component of training”:

Census tract:: _____ MSSA: _____

4. Are all of the program's students required to spend part of their education in patient care in the "component of training"? Yes ☒ No ☐

Did the site review include a visit to the "component of training"?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Comments: _____

5. Check all applicable categories that describe the "component of training"?

Yes ☐ No ☒ Federally Qualified Health Center or Look-alike
Yes ☐ No ☒ Community Health Center (Section 330)
Yes ☐ No ☒ Rural Health Clinic (P.L. 95-210)
Yes ☐ No ☒ Government-Owned/Operated Facility
Yes ☐ No ☐ other (describe): Frank R. Howard Hospital in Willits is designated by Medicare as a "Critical Access" facility

Additional comments relating to compliance with Section II of the Standards (optional): _____

Section III. *Appropriate strategies shall be developed by each education institution receiving funds under the Act to encourage Registered Nurses who are educated in the education program funded by the Act, to enter into practice in areas of unmet priority need for primary care family physicians within California as defined by the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission (hereinafter referred to as "areas of need"). Such strategies shall incorporate the following elements:*

- A. *An established procedure to identify, recruit and admit registered nursing students who possess characteristics which would suggest a predisposition to practice in areas of need, and who express a commitment to serve in areas of need***
- B. *An established counseling and placement program designed to encourage education program graduates to enter practice in areas of need.***
- C. *A program component such as a preceptorship experience in an area of need, which will enhance the potential of education program graduates to practice in such an area.***

The following questions relate to Section III of the Education Program Standards:

1) Does the program have an established procedure to identify, recruit and admit registered nursing students who possess the following characteristics?

- a) A predisposition to practice in areas of need? Yes ☐ No ☒
b) Who express a commitment to serve in areas of need? Yes ☐ No ☒

Comments: MCC, must comply with all California Community College mandates for open access and enrollment. MCC's Nursing Programs can give preference to in-district applicants equal to about 80% of all applicants, with the other 20% from Lake and Sonoma County. They continue to work on a program that can provide quality graduates who stay in and around the rural areas to work.

2) Check all applicable categories that describe the established procedure referenced in Section III of the Education Program Standards (above):

- Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐ (a) Mission statement speaks to graduate deployment
Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐ (b) Website emphasizes underserved areas, populations
Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐ (c) Promotion of mission in interviews of training program
Applicants – Community College can't use
Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A ☐ (d) Weighting of underserved goals affecting ranking of
Applicants - Community College can't use
Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐ (e) Special emphasis on recruiting registered nursing
students from local community – Preference given to
applicants who reside within the Mendocino-Lake College District.
Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐ (f) Developing core faculty with experience in
underserved practices – Melissa has worked with inner-city HIV
populations. Barbara has worked with HIV, gay/lesbian populations
Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐ (g) Offering preceptorships, clerkships to potential
applicants
Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐ (h) Formally promoting registered nursing careers in high
schools, colleges – The Nursing Program participates in the
SCRUBS Program which officers high school students the opportunity to
check out different careers in the health care fields.

Other (describe): _____

3) Does the program have an established counseling and placement program designed to encourage nursing education program graduates to enter practice in areas of need?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Does the program provide any type of support services for students?

- ☒ NCLEX Preparation -- Define the nature of your NCLEX
☒ Skills Lab preparation in space provided
☒ Tutoring below.
☒ Mentoring
☐ Safety Issue

If needed students are offered tutoring on an individual bases. As stated earlier, a three day on-site NCLEX Review Course was developed by the MCC faculty. They have found this review course has been beneficial to the students that have participated, this is not a mandatory course and faculty are trying to make it more attractive to students to ensure that all students who need the class take it. The faculty is looking at making the course available via web-broadcast to reach as many students as possible. MCC has established peer-to-peer tutoring. Matching a 1st and 2nd year student based on geography and temperament, they found this to work well for both students.

Are these services free to the students?

Yes ☒ No ☒

- 4) Check all applicable categories that describe the established counseling and placement program referenced in Section III of the Education Program Standards (above):

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐ (a) Faculty advisors/hospital management promote practice Opportunities

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐ (b) Coordination with Health Professions Education Foundation's RN education scholarships and loan repayment programs

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐ (c) Coordination with community healthcare employers in recruiting program graduates

Yes ☒ No ☐ N/A ☐ (d) A program matching registered nurses with underserved areas

Additional comments relating to compliance with Section III of the Standards (optional): MCC holds a job fair for its second year students, inviting the local hospitals and clinics to participate. Many clinical assignments during the two-year program involve students with local clinics and health agencies to familiarize the students with what is available locally. Outside of the local hospitals students are rotating through dialysis centers, county mental health departments, home/hospice care, and the county jail system.

The following are general questions relating to the administration of the Song-Brown Registered Nursing Education Program:

1. Do you have any concerns about any of the following processes established for the administration of the Song-Brown Act?

a) The applications for Song-Brown funds:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) The oral presentations to the Commission:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) The contract process:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) The invoice process:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Staff's ability to provide technical assistance:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) RNSA methodology	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2. Is there any information about the Registered Nursing Education Program not covered by the above questions that should be noted or included with this site visit report?

If yes, please comment: MCC's Nursing Program has difficulty in attracting and retaining qualified faculty due to the lower salaries for nursing instructors compared to working in a medical center.